

REMARKS

Claims 1-33 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 1, 5-15, 19, 23, 24, 26, 29 and 30 are amended, and claims 31-33 are added. No new matter is involved.

Initially, Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication of patentable subject matter in claims 5-13, 28 and 30. Claims 5-13 are re-written in independent form and, therefore, should be allowed. Claims 28 and 30 are not amended at this time, however, because of Applicants' belief that claims 27 and 29, from which claims 28 and 30 respectively depend, are patentable over the applied art, for reasons presented below.

Applicants also acknowledge with appreciation the allowance of claims 15-26.

The Office Action objects to claims 2, 5, 7, 10-14, 16, 19, 20 and 23-26 for lack of antecedent basis for one or more terms in each claim. Independent claims 1 and 15 and dependent claims 7, 10-15 and 19 are amended to provide proper antecedent basis for the terms in the objected-to claims. The objected-to claims are not narrowed by these amendments.

Claims 12 and 24 are amended to replace "shelf" with --sheet-- to correct an obvious typographical error. These claims are not narrowed by such amendment.

The Office Action objects to claim 17 because it does not end with a period. Applicants have amended claim 17 to end with a period.

The Office Action objects to the paragraph between claims 23 and 24. Applicants respectfully submit that the paragraph was intended to be a separate claim. Under the circumstances, the paragraph is treated as part of claim 23, and claim 23 is amended to delete the paragraph. However, the subject matter thereof is presented as new claim 31. No new matter is involved because the subject matter was presented in the application as originally filed.

Applicants respectfully submit that the aforementioned amendments correct the various informalities noted in the Office Action. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to claims 2, 5, 7, 10-14, 16, 19, 20 and 23-26 is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claim 30 under 37 CFR §1.75 as being a substantial duplicate of claim 28. Claim 30 is amended to depend from claim 29. As such, claim 30 is not a substantial duplicate of claim 28. Accordingly, this rejection should be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 27 and 29 under 35 USC §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 6,512,585 to Ikeda. The Office Action rejects also claims 1, 27 and 29 under 35 USC §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 6,452,147 to Inada. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 1, as amended, recites "using the measured test pattern parameters to determine at least two registration errors in at least two of image squareness . . . and using the determined at least two registration errors to provide a single step error correction of at least two operational parameters of the image forming device."

Support for these features is found throughout Applicants' disclosure as originally filed, including, for example, the title, the abstract, paragraphs [0009]-[0015], [0118], [0119], Figs. 13A and 13B, and claims 28 and 30.

Ikeda and Inada do not disclose, teach or suggest these features recited in claim 1.

With respect to claims 27 and 29, Ikeda and Inada do not disclose, teach or suggest making measurements of a plurality of registration errors, determining error corrections for a plurality of registration errors, and providing corrections for the plurality of errors, as recited. Ikeda and Inada only disclose a single registration error measurement, a single error correction determination, and correcting a single registration error. Accordingly, claims 27 and 29 are not anticipated by Ikeda or Inada.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-4, 14, 27 and 29 under 35 USC §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 6,490,421 to McIntyre. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1, as amended, recites "using the measured test pattern parameters to determine at least two registration errors in at least two of image squareness . . . and using the determined at least two registration errors to provide a single step error correction of at least two operational parameters of the image forming device."

McIntyre does not disclose, teach or suggest these features recited in claim 1.

Claims 2-4 and 14 depend from claim 1 and are patentable at least for the reasons that claim 1 is patentable, as set forth above, as well as for the additional features they recite.

With respect to claims 27 and 29, McIntyre does not disclose, teach or suggest making measurements of a plurality of registration errors, determining corrections for a plurality of registration errors, and providing corrections for the plurality of errors, as recited. McIntyre only discloses a single registration error measurement, a single error correction determination, and correcting a single registration error. Accordingly, claims 27 and 29 are not anticipated by McIntyre.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 14, 27 and 29 under 35 USC §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,600,408 to Horiuchi et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1, as amended, recites "using the measured test pattern parameters to determine at least two registration errors in at least two of image squareness . . . and using the determined at least two registration errors to provide a single step error correction of at least two operational parameters of the image forming device."

Horiuchi et al. does not disclose, teach or suggest these features recited in claim 1.

Claim 14 depends from claim 1 and is patentable at least for the reasons that claim 1 is patentable, as set forth above, as well as for the additional features it recites.

With respect to claims 27 and 29, Horiuchi et al. does not disclose, teach or suggest making measurements of a plurality of registration errors, determining corrections for a plurality of registration errors, and providing corrections for the plurality of errors, as recited. Horiuchi et al. only discloses a single registration error measurement, a single error correction determination, and correcting a single registration error. Accordingly, claims 27 and 29 are not anticipated by Horiuchi et al.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 3, 14, 27 and 29 under 35 USC §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,374,993 to Diehl et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1, as amended, recites "using the measured test pattern parameters to determine at least two registration errors in at least two of image squareness . . . and using the determined at least two registration errors to provide a single step error correction of at least two operational parameters of the image forming device."

Diehl et al. does not disclose, teach or suggest these features recited in claim 1.

Claims 3 and 14 depend from claim 1 and are patentable at least for the reasons that claim 1 is patentable, as set forth above, as well as for the additional features they recite.

With respect to claims 27 and 29, Diehl et al. does not disclose, teach or suggest making measurements of a plurality of registration errors, determining corrections for a plurality of registration errors, and providing corrections for the plurality of errors, as recited. Diehl et al. only discloses a single registration error measurement, a single error correction determination, and correcting a single registration error. Accordingly, claims 27 and 29 are not anticipated by Diehl et al.

Applicants respectfully submit that all claims 1-33 are allowable, at least for the reasons stated above. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the application is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is needed to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Robert J. Webster
Registration No. 46,472

JAO:RJW/sxb

Date: November 4, 2003

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 24-0037</p>
--